

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 05135 070439Z

13

ACTION EB-11

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INR-11 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SP-03 STR-08 TRSE-00

SWF-02 CIEP-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 L-03 SS-20 DRC-01 /112 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5254

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 5135

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD KS

SUBJECT: JURICH DISCUSSIONS WITH ROKG OFFICIALS

REF: SEOUL 4970

1. JURICH AND SMITH HAD SERIES OF INTENSIVE, INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH MCI AND MOFA OFFICIALS AUGUST 5 AND 6 ON FORTHCOMING SEPTEMBER BILATERAL TEXTILE CONSULTATIONS. FOLLOWING ARE PRINCIPAL POINTS:

A. ROKG AGREES WITH SEPTEMBER 3 INITIATION OF TALKS AND PREFERS, FOR POLITICAL REASONS, THAT TALKS BE HELD IN WASHINGTON. ROKG BELIEVES, BARRING UNFORESEEN COMPLICATIONS, THAT CONSULTATIONS CAN BE CONCLUDED IN FOUR TO SEVEN WORKING DAYS (SEPTEMBER 3-9) AND THAT UNDERSTANDING WOULD BE REACHED IN THAT TIME.

B. AS COULD BE EXPECTED, ROKG CONCERNED WITH FLEXIBILITY, CARRY OVER AND CARRY FORWARD, SWING, GROWTH, AND BASE. ROKG BELIEVES TWO SEPARATE EXISTING BILATERALS COULD BE MERGED INTO SINGLE AGREEMENT. JURICH EMPHASIZED REPEATEDLY THAT USG CANNOT DO ANYTHING DIFFERENT FOR ROKG RE BASE THAN WAS DONE FOR TAIWAN AND WHILE MCI AND MOFA UNDERSTOOD EQUITY

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 SEOUL 05135 070439Z

CONSIDERATIONS, ETC, WE BELIEVE THIS COULD STILL

BE A POTENTIAL PROBLEM. ON OTHER ITEMS, JURICH ASSURED ROKG THAT USG WOULD BE NO LESS EQUITABLE THAN WITH OTHER MAJOR FAR EASTERN SUPPLIERS.

C. HEAD OF ROKG DELEGATION NOT YET DETERMINED. MOFA IS PUSHING QUITE HARD FOR KIM, DONG WHIE (MOFA ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS), WHILE MCI PREFERS THAT KIM, SON KIL LEAD DELEGATION. IT UNLIKELY NOW THAT PARK, PIL SOO, BECAUSE OF HIS NEW RESPONSIBILITIES, WILL COME TO WASHINGTON. FYI: JURICH IMPRESSED WITH KIM, DONG WHIE AND FEELS HE WOULD BE BETTER MAN TO LEAD ROKG DEL THAN KIM, SON KIL. END FYI.

2. KIM, SON KIL SAID PRIVATELY THAT HIS MINISTRY UNDER CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE FROM INDUSTRY TO GO THE ARTICLE 3 ROUTE WITH USG. JURICH AND SMITH EMPHASIZED TO HIM SEPARATELY AND REPEATEDLY THAT SUCH A NOTION WOULD NOT BE IN EITHER COUNTRY'S INTEREST AND WOULD BE MISUNDERSTOOD IN THE US KIM UNDERSTOOD THIS AND SAID ROKG WOULD COME TO WASHINGTON IN EXPECTATION OF CONCLUDING NEW BILATERAL UNDER ARTICLE 4.

3. FROM OUTSET, FROM MINISTER CHANG DOWN, ROKG OFFICIALS TRIED TO MAKE THE CLAIM THAT ROKG IS A LATE STARTER (AND AN LDC) IN COMPARISON WITH TAIWAN, HONG KONG, AND JAPAN IN TEXTILES AND THAT, THEREFORE, ROKG SHOULD RECEIVE SOME SORT OF SPECIAL CONSIDERATION. HOWEVER, JURICH REPEATEDLY MADE IT CLEAR THAT, AS FAR AS USG CONCERNED, ROKG NOT IN A DIFFERENT POSITION AND THAT BECAUSE OF MFA EQUITY PROVISIONS USG COULD NOT DISCRIMINATE.

4. IN SUM, WE PLEASED OUTCOME THESE INFORMAL TALKS AND BELIEVE THAT VISIT HERE WAS ESSENTIAL TO LAY FOUNDATION FOR MEANINGFUL CONSULTATIONS IN SEPTEMBER WITH A MINIMUM OF PHILOSOPHIZING BY ROKG. AT SAME TIME, WE CONTINUE TO ANTICIPATE THAT THE SEPTEMBER CONSULTATIONS WILL BE DEMANDING.  
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 SEOUL 05135 070439Z

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## Message Attributes

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